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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/466,947	12/20/1999	DALE D. PETERSON	55288USA1A	1762

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

LEWIS, RALPH A

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

3732

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/466,947	Applicant(s) Peterson
	Examiner Ralph Lewis	Art Unit 3732

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 - 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 - 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.
- Disposition of Claims**
- 4) Claim(s) 1-4, 6-24, and 26-31 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 - 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 - 6) Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 13, 14, 17-19, 21-24, 26, 29, and 30 is/are rejected.
 - 7) Claim(s) 7-12, 15, 16, 20, 27, 28, and 31 is/are objected to.
 - 8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

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Rejections based on Prior Art

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 6, 13, 14, 17-19, 21-24, 26, 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Maurer et al (4,579,754).

Maurer et al disclose an article in Figure 3. The article includes a body 13 having an exterior surface of a certain color, a polymer coating 27, 28 having a color different from that of the body 13. The coating includes a certain area 6, 31 (note column 5, line 46, column 4, lines 30, 31) which has a genus mark (e.g. company name). The coating further includes a certain region 30, 32, 2) having a laser engraved identification mark that is a species mark (e.g. customer name).

While it is not necessary for purposes of this rejection it is noted that providing credit cards with colored logos representing financial institutions, alma maters, and favorite sports teams is well known. Applicant is encouraged to carefully consider the scope of the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

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Claims 7-12, 15, 16, 20, 27, 28 and 31 are objected to, but would be allowable over the art of record if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the claims from which they depend.

Prior Art

Holbein et al (4,523,777), Borror et al (4,663,518), Merkle et al (5,298,922) and Goeb et al (5,688,573) are made of record.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to **Ralph Lewis** at telephone number **(703) 308-0770**. After-Final Fax (703) 872-9303. The examiner works a compressed work schedule and is unavailable every other Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver, can be reached at (703) 308-2582.

R.Lewis
February 21, 2003



Ralph A. Lewis
Primary Examiner
Au3732